

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 COPENH 03485 261424Z

46

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 PRS-01 PA-01 USIA-06

L-03 H-02 SS-15 NSC-05 /062 W
----- 040687

R 261220Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1852

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO 3133

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COPENHAGEN 3485

3.O. 1652\$ N/A

TAG: EAIR, UR, DA

SUBJECT: CIVIL AVIATION - PANAM CHARTER TO USSR ENCOUNTERS MAJOR
COSTLY SOVIET CLEARANCE DELAYS - POSSIBLE US PRESS REACTION

1. SUMMARY. ANAM COPENHAGEN REP HAS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT
PANAM CHARTER FROM JACKSONVILLE TO LEINGRAD ENCOUNTERED
THREE-DAY DELAY IN OBTAINING SOVIET CLEARANCE TO LAND AT
LENINGRAD NECESSITATING CHANGE IN ITINERARY TO MOSCOW.
PRESENCE OF SEVERAL VIPS PLUS PRESS AND RADIO/TELEVISION
REPS ABOARD CHARTER COULD LEAD TO CONSIDERABLE PUBLICITY
IN US AS WELL AS COMPLAINTS TO VAROUS USG AGENCIES.
END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO SIEGFRIED RUFFERT, PANAM REP INCOPENHAGEN,
A PANAM BOEING 707 AIRCRAFT UNDER CHARTER TO CARAVAN
CHARTERS OF FLORIDA CARRYING APPROXIMATELY 179 PASSENGERS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 COPENH 03485 261424Z

WAS SUBJECT TO A NUMBER OF COSTLY DELAYS WHEN SOVIET

AUTHORITIES REFUSED TO GRANT CLEARANCE TO LAND, AS SCHEDULED, IN LENINGRAD.

3. CHARTER DEPARTED JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA ON NOVEMBER 20 STOPPING AT KENNEDY AIRPORT AND SHANNON. FLIGHT WAS DELAYED OVERNIGHT IN SHANNON AWAITING LENINGRAD CLEARANCE WHICH WAS GRANTED PRIOR TO FLIGHT'S DEPARTURE FROM SHANNON. MEAL AND ACCOMMODATION COST TO PANAM OF OVERNIGHT DELAY AT SHANNON ESTIMATED AT MORE THAN FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS. ON NOVEMBER 21 AS FLIGHT APPROACHED LENINGRAD AND GIVEN CLEARANCE TO DESCEND TO SIX THOUSAND FEET IT WAS TOLD TO DIVERT TO ALTERNATE LANDING SITE, COPENHAGEN, TO WHICH IT PROCEEDED.

4. EFFORTS TO OBTAIN LENINGRAD CLEARANCE WERE CONTINUED BUT SOVIETS CLAIMED IT COULD NOT BE GIVEN DUE TO WEATHER CONDITIONS AND RUNWAY RESTRICTIONS. IN VIEW OF CONTINUED DELAY IN GRANTING OF CLEARANCE, PANAM REQUESTED AND RECEIVED SOVIET CLEARANCE TO LAND AT MOSCOW TO WHICH FLIGHT PROCEEDED ON SUNDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 23. MEAL AND ACCOMMODATION COSTS TO PANAM FOR GROUP IN COPENHAGEN TOTAL SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS. FURTHER COMPLICATION WAS NECESSITY TO HAVE GROUP WHICH WAS WAITING IN LENINGRAD AND WAS SCHEDULED TO RETURN ON AIRCRAFT, TRAVEL TO MOSCOW TO MEET IT.

5. RUFFERT SPECULATED THAT THE SOVIET HANDLING OF THIS MATTER MAY HAVE BEEN THE RESULT OF REPORTEDLY RECENT CAB REJECTION OF AEROFLOT APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL DESTINATION RIGHTS IN THE US.

6. ACCORDING TO RUFFERT, THERE WERE SEVERAL VIPS ABOARD THE CHARTER, INCLUDING MRS. COLEMAN, WIFE OF THE US SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION, AND FORMER GOVERNOR OF FLORIDA BROWN. ADDITIONALLY, RUFFERT STATES THERE WERE REPRESENTATIVES OF SEVERAL MAJOR US NEWSPAPERS AND RADIO/TELEVISION STATIONS ABOARD. THEREFORE, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE SOVIET HANDLING OF THE CHARTER COULD RECEIVE CONSIDERABLE PUBLICITY WHEN THE CHARTER GROUP RETURNS TO THE UNITED STATES ON NOVEMBER 27 AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 COPENH 03485 261424Z

ALSO MAY RESULT IN COMPLAINTS TO VARIOUS USG AGENCIES.
DEAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CIVIL AVIATION, LANDING RIGHTS, REPORTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, SUPPLEMENTAL AIRLINES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975COPENH03485
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750411-1118
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975118/aaaaagtu.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <30 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVIL AVIATION - PANAM CHARTER TO USSR ENCOUNTERS MAJOR COSTLY SOVIET CLEARANCE DELAYS - POSSIBLE US PRESS REACTION
TAGS: EAIR, UR, DA, US, PAN AM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006